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December 7, 2006

**VIA FACSIMILE**

To: Examiner John M. Hoffman  
Group Art Unit: 1731  
U.S.P.T.O.

Facsimile No.: (571) 273-8300

From: Scott M. Tulino

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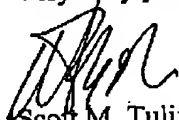
Re: Enclosed Amendment under 37 CFR §1.116 and Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.132  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/987,404  
Docket No.: SH-0027US

Dear Examiner Hoffman:

Attached for filing are an Amendment under 37 CFR §1.116 and Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.132 in response to the Final Office Action mailed on September 7, 2006, which should place the above-referenced case in condition for allowance.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration on this case.

Very truly yours,

  
Scott M. Tulino  
Sean M. McGinn

SMM/SMT/emh

Attachment

Total pages transmitted (including this cover page): 22